

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 and 5 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An injection molding machine comprising:

(a) a mold closing processing section which advances without stopping a movable platen until a movable mold comes into contact with a stationary mold so as to perform mold closing; ~~by a movable mold and a stationary mold disposed in opposition to the movable mold;~~

(b) a movable-platen-position determination section which determines whether or not the movable platen has reached an injection start position set between a mold opening limit position and a mold closing limit position, ~~at which the movable mold does not come into contact with the stationary mold;~~ and

(c) an injection processing section which starts an injection step with advancing the movable platen when the movable platen reaches the injection start position.

2. (Original) An injection molding machine according to claim 1, wherein a pressure increasing step is started with start of the injection step.

3. (Previously Presented) An injection molding machine according to claim 1, wherein the injection processing section starts the injection step before completion of a mold closing step.

4. (Previously Presented) An injection molding machine according to claim 1, wherein the injection processing section ends the injection step before completion of a pressure increasing step.

5. (Currently Amended) An injection molding method comprising the steps of:

(a) advancing without stopping a movable platen until a movable mold comes into contact with a stationary mold so as to perform mold closing ~~by a movable mold and a stationary mold disposed in opposition to the movable mold;~~

(b) determining whether or not the movable platen has reached an injection start position set between a mold opening limit position and a mold closing limit position, ~~at which the movable mold does not come into contact with the stationary mold;~~ and

(c) starting an injection step with advancing the movable platen when the movable platen reaches the injection start position.